



**COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

September 6, 2005

**Assistance for Students & Schools
Impacted by Hurricane Katrina: Higher
Education**

Dear Colleague:

The devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina will have a lasting impact on our nation's educational systems. We are working closely with the U.S. Department of Education to determine what steps can be taken immediately, and what action may be needed in the future to meet the needs of students, families, and schools. At the postsecondary level, students may be seeking transfers to other institutions of higher education or the ability to withdraw and postpone their higher education as they work to rebuild their homes and their lives.

The Department has been working to provide guidance, flexibility, and assistance to the postsecondary students and institutions impacted by Hurricane Katrina and its aftereffects. Attached to this email you will find initial correspondence from the Department about federal student aid programs, including information on transfers, deadline extensions, and other guidance. We hope you will find this information useful as a first step in helping your constituents and others in the higher education community impacted by this unprecedented natural disaster.

In the coming days and weeks, we will continue to provide you with the latest available information on relief for the educational systems impacted by Hurricane Katrina, and we will continue to work closely with the Department to ensure we are meeting the needs of students, families, and schools. For more information, visit the U.S. Department of Education website at <http://www.ed.gov> or contact the Education & the Workforce Committee at x5-4527.

Sincerely,

/s/

John Boehner
Chairman
Education & the Workforce Committee
Subcommittee

/s/

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Chairman
21st Century Competitiveness